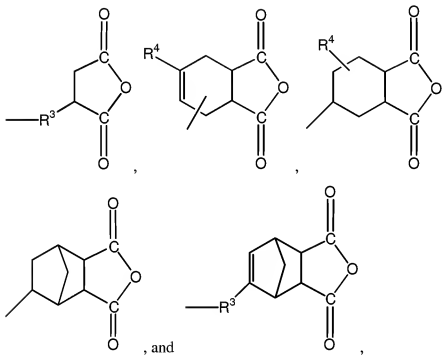


**IN THE CLAIMS:**

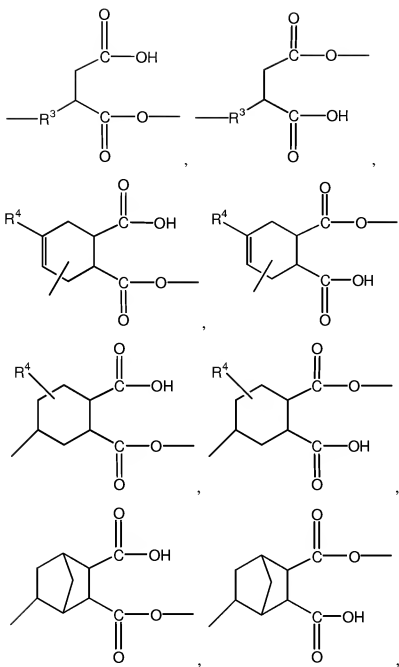
Claims 1-3. (Cancelled)

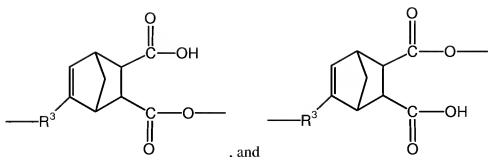
4. (Previously Presented) The organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 17, wherein the residual carboxylic anhydride has a formula selected from the group of;



where  $R^3$  is a divalent hydrocarbon group, and  $R^4$  is a hydrogen atom or alkyl group.

5. (Previously Presented) The organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 17, wherein the half ester group has a formula selected from the group of;



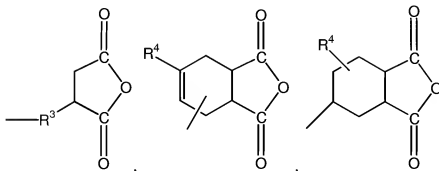


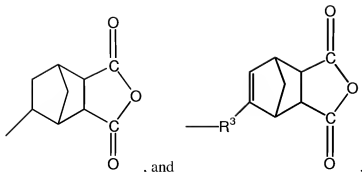
where R<sup>3</sup> is a divalent hydrocarbon group, and R<sup>4</sup> is a hydrogen atom or alkyl group.

6. (Previously Presented) The organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 17, wherein component (B) is selected from the group of ligneous polysaccharides, polysaccharides obtained from fruit flesh and rhizome, plant adhesive substances, legume-derived polysaccharides, seaweed-derived polysaccharides, microorganism-produced polysaccharides, polysaccharides of animal origin, or a derivative of these polysaccharides.

Claims 7-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 18, wherein the residual carboxylic anhydride has a formula selected from the group of:





where R<sup>3</sup> is a divalent hydrocarbon group, and R<sup>4</sup> is a hydrogen atom or alkyl group.

11. (Previously Presented) The process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 18, wherein component (B) is selected from the group of ligneous polysaccharides, polysaccharides obtained from fruit flesh and rhizome, plant adhesive substances, legume-derived polysaccharides, seaweed-derived polysaccharides, microorganism-produced polysaccharides, polysaccharides of animal origin, or a derivative of these polysaccharides.

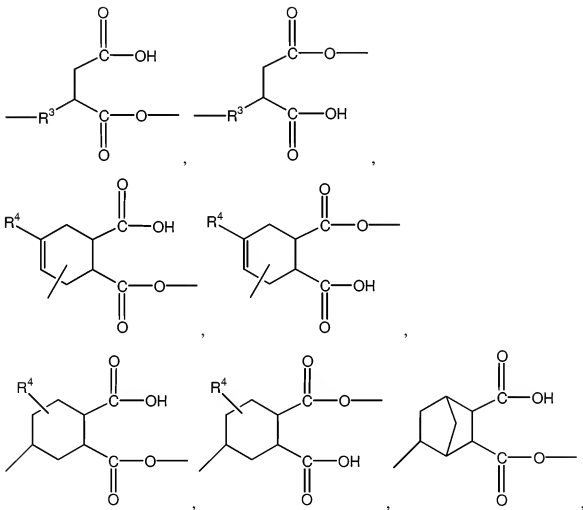
12. (Previously Presented) The process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 18, wherein component (C) is *N,N*-dimethylacetamide, *N,N*-dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, or hexamethylphosphortriamide.

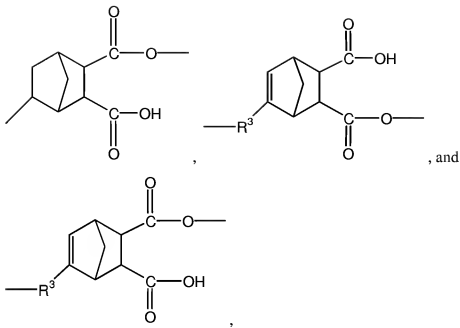
13. (Previously Presented) The organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 17, wherein components (A) and (B) are esterification reacted in the presence of (C) a non-protonic polar solvent.

14. (Previously Presented) The organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 13, wherein component (C) is *N,N*-dimethylacetamide, *N,N*-dimethylformamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, or hexamethylphosphortriamide.

15. (Previously Presented) The process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 18, wherein the organopolysiloxane is bonded to the polysaccharide through half ester groups.

16. (Previously Presented) The process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide according to claim 15, wherein the half ester group has a formula selected from the group of;

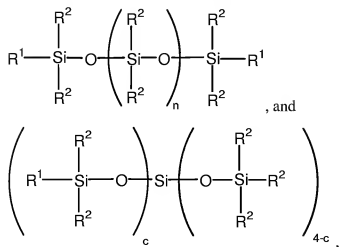




where  $R^3$  is a divalent hydrocarbon group, and  $R^4$  is a hydrogen atom or alkyl group.

17. (Previously Presented) An organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide prepared by a process comprising the step of esterification reacting:

(A) an organopolysiloxane having residual carboxylic anhydride groups and having the formula selected from the group of;



where  $R^1$  is a monovalent organic group containing a residual carboxylic anhydride group,

$R^2$  is a hydrogen atom or monovalent hydrocarbon group, with the proviso that at least one  $R^2$  is a monovalent hydrocarbon,

$n$  is an integer greater than zero, and

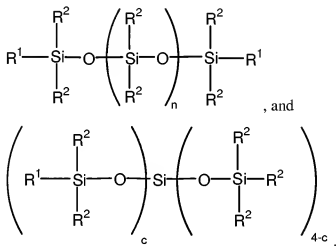
$c$  is an integer from 1 to 4; and

(B) a polysaccharide having hydroxyl groups,

wherein the organopolysiloxane is bonded to the polysaccharide through half ester groups.

18. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of organopolysiloxane-modified polysaccharide, said process comprising the step of esterification reacting:

(A) an organopolysiloxane having residual carboxylic anhydride groups and having the formula selected from the group of;



where  $R^1$  is a monovalent organic group containing a residual carboxylic anhydride group,

$R^2$  is a hydrogen atom or monovalent hydrocarbon group, with the proviso that at least one  $R^2$  is a monovalent hydrocarbon,

$n$  is an integer greater than zero, and

$c$  is an integer from 1 to 4; and

(B) a polysaccharide having hydroxyl groups,  
in the presence of  
(C) a non-protonic polar solvent.